



Hon. Robert T. Matsui

Member of Congress

Robert T. Matsui
Serving California's 5th District

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MATSUI: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES APPROVES FUNDING FOR SACRAMENTO FLOOD CONTROL

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Congressman Robert T. Matsui (D-Sacramento) announced today the House of Representatives approved \$26.2 million in funding for critical Sacramento flood control projects, including construction on modifications to Folsom Dam's outlets, preparations for the construction of the Folsom Dam Mini-Raise and a permanent bridge to replace the Folsom Dam Road, and levee improvements. This is the first significant installment of federal funds for construction of the Mini-Raise and bridge since Congress approved the two projects last year.

"I am very pleased to see these projects are moving forward," Matsui said. "Construction is ready to begin without delay on Folsom Dam Modifications and real progress can be made to prepare for the Mini-Raise and the bridge. Sacramento will greatly benefit from the work being done on these flood protection projects."

The modifications to Folsom Dam's outlets will allow the dam to operate more efficiently, bringing added flood protections to the Sacramento area. Increasing the size of the outlets allows the dam to release more water prior to a storm and handle more water once a storm arrives.

The funding will also support efforts to strengthen the levees along the Sacramento River as well as help reach the goal of levee certification, which would reduce the amount Sacramento residents pay in flood insurance.

Once constructed, the combined projects will bring the community to its goal of 200-year protection, ensuring the safety of \$40 billion of property including the California state capitol, 160,000 homes, over 100 schools, six major hospitals, 26 nursing homes, three major freeways systems, and a regional economy that supports over one million people.

The funding was included in the FY05 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. The bill must now be approved by the Senate, agreed to by both Houses, and signed by the President.

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